Orissa and West Bengal for Shrimp Farming;

(ii) development of about 45000 ha. small reservoirs in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh and about 6000 ha. Ox-bow lakes in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for Fish Farming;

at an estimated cost of Rs. 273 crore. The project will be negotiated with World Bank for approval during the last week of November, 1991.

(d) This project does not cover Madhya Pradesh.

Youth camp at Aizawal, Mizoram

153. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Youth Hostels Association of India recently organised a youth camp at Aizawal, Mizoram to enable the participants know the Mizo way of life; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to organise more youth camps from various Universities/Colleges places in various parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes Sir. 275 participants from 16 States were benefited the camp and have learnt about the history, culture and way of life of Mizoram by direct interaction.

(b) Yes, Sir. Proposals received in the Department from various agencies to organise youth camps are examined and approved every year. NSS, Bharat Scouts & Guides, Youth Hostels Association of India, State Governments and Voluntary Organisations have been conducting on an average about 200 such National Integration Camps every year all over the country, with grants-in-aid from this Department. It is proposed to increase substantially these programmes during the next Plan period 1990-97.

Privatisation of Telecom services

154. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item under the caption "Telecom services may be privatised' which appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated 9th November, 1991; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No proposal for handing over of Telephone services to private sector in bigger cities and towns on experimental basis has yet been condered.

Regarding Franchising of Value Added Services, the Department is making indepth study of the issue for further action.

Loss of Foodgrain in the country

155. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the stages and the percentage of post-harvest losses of foodgrains in the country;

(b) what are the various measures taken by Government so far to disseminate the modern techniques to provide efficient storage management at farm level to prevent foodgrains losses and what are the results achieved; and

(c) what strategy/action plan has been drawn by Government to popularise the available modern technology and equipment in the rural areas to prevent foodgrain losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Starvation Deaths in Tripura

156. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the starvation deaths in the Atharmura hills of Tripura recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) There are no reports of starvation deaths in the Atharmura hills of Tripura recently.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Dams in District Garhwal Region

157. SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of the projects for construction of dams proposed to be taken up by Government in Garhwal region;

(b) what is the present stage of these projects; and

(c) whether in view of the recent devastating earthquake in Tehri region Government propose to review these projects considering the high seismic risk in the Himalayan belt?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh are investigating 7 new major and medium storage dams in the Garhwal Himalayan region. These projects are in the early stages of investigations only and detailed project reports are yet to be submitted by the State Government to the Central Government for techno-economic appraisal at which stage all relevant factors are considered.

गुजरात में अहमदाबाद और बड़ोदरा में टेलीफोन प्रणाली

158. **श्री राम सिंह राठवा**: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गुजरात में अहमदाबाद और बड़ोदरा जिलों में टेलीफ़ोन सेवाएं खराब हैं ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो वहां टेलीफोन एक्सचेंजों में कितनी-कितनी क्षमता का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है ;

(ग) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान कितनी शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं ; और

(घ) सरकार द्वारा इन जिलों में टेलीफोन प्रणाली को सुचारु बनाने के लिए क्या प्रयास किये गये हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री पी० वी० रंगैया नायडू) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता । तथापि, एक्सचेंजों की क्षमता का इस्तेमाल अहमदाबाद में 93.69 प्रतिशत तथा बड़ोदरा में 88.47 प्रतिशत है ।

(ग) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान प्रति 100 टेलीफोनों की प्रति माह प्राप्त हुई